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### **E-briefs**

**Science:** Silicon Valley Democrat **Mike Honda** on Thursday introduced legislation that would create an independent advisory board to help set short-term and long-term goals for the federal government's National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI). The board, comprised of leaders from industry and academia, would advise the president and Congress on nanotech research matters. Honda, a member of the House Science Committee, said his bill, H.R. 283, is similar to nanotech legislation he introduced last year. He said it would help ensure that the federal government has an "aggressive, achievable and measurable plan" for helping the industry become one of the "new engines" of the U.S. economy. "It is of the utmost importance that the United States lead in the development of the nanotechnology industry," Honda said, adding that his proposal is gaining support throughout the private and academic sectors. "My legislation and other nanotechnology proposals must be addressed in a bipartisan manner."